

REMARKS

Further to Applicants' response of April 4, 2003, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks and respectfully request entry of this supplemental amendment.

Claims 1-12 were previously pending in this application. By this amendment, Applicants have added new claims 13-19 to further define Applicants' contribution to the art. Each of new claims 13-19 are supported by the specification as filed and their inclusion does not constitute addition of new matter.

Claims 1-19 are now pending, of which claims 1, 8 and 13 are independent claims. The application as presented is believed to be in allowable condition.

0 New independent claim 13 recites "a system for contactless electromagnetic transmission between a terminal and a transponder...wherein at least one of the terminal and the transponder is structurally dedicated to operation in a relation where a distance between the terminal and the transponder exceeds a predetermined distance." As discussed in Applicants' response mailed April 4, 2003, Janning discloses a system including a terminal (dispenser) and a transponder (receptacle) that operate within a certain range of one another. Janning makes absolutely no mention of either the terminal or the transponder being "structurally dedicated to operation in a relation where a distance between the terminal and the transponder exceeds a predetermined distance," as is recited in Applicants' new claim 13. Rather, Janning discloses the opposite, namely a system wherein magnetic coupling between the dispenser transceiver and the receptacle transceiver decreases as the distance between the transceivers increases (coupling is inversely proportional to the cube of the distance) such that the system operates only when the receptacle transceiver is within sufficient proximity to the dispenser transceiver. Therefore, for at least this reason, Applicants' new claim 13 distinguishes over the art of record and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

New dependent claims 14-19 depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claim 13 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 13.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,

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